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SIPDIS
SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE RESIGNS TO PROTEST CNDD

¶1. (SBU) The Minister of Agriculture, Abdulrahmane Sano, resigned on October 12 in protest of the September 28 massacre. Sano, a Malinke who formerly worked in the private export sector, joined the government soon after the December 2008 coup. According to sources within the government, Sano has become increasingly frustrated at the CNDD's inability to implement agricultural reform and their unwillingness to divert spending from the Ministry of Defense to the Ministry of Agriculture.

¶2. (SBU) On October 13, Sano publicly condemned the attacks on September 28, and said that he could no longer work for the CNDD in good conscience. Sources close to Sano say that he now fears for his personal safety, as he could become a target for military aggression after his public statements.

BROKENSHIRE